

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 9 as follows:

The present invention contemplates a new and improved ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly for attaching a snowplow blade unit to a vehicle which overcomes all of the above referenced problems and enables a lift mount assembly and/or a ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly to be quickly released from the vehicle. In this respect, the ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly, according to the present invention, is structurally simple and light in weight, thus enabling a savings in cost while facilitating the installation procedure and reducing the weight imposed on the front axle of the vehicle during snowplowing and non-snowplowing use. The ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly is structurally independent of the vehicle bumper and is mountable on a vehicle without replacing the original or existing bumper. The ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly advantageously enables quick release and removal of the support assembly from the supporting portion of ~~the a~~ frame mount assembly, whereby only the frame mount assembly need remain on the vehicle during non-snowplowing use of the vehicle. Accordingly, components of the support assembly and components attached thereto can be stored and thus protected from adverse environmental conditions and potential damage by impact of the vehicle with another object during non-snowplowing use thereof. The ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly is constructed in association with the vehicle so as to advantageously minimize both the visibility of the frame mount assembly and the projection of the parts of the frame mount assembly thereof forwardly of the vehicle when the support assembly is removed, thus promoting the aesthetic appearance of the front of the vehicle. The mounting of the frame mount assembly independent of the vehicle's bumper allows forces and stresses imposed on the frame mount assembly when the snowplow blade is elevated to be transmitted through the frame mount assembly to the vehicle frame, thus avoiding any distortion of the bumper member and/or any

disfiguring thereof by attachment of the component parts of the assembly thereto.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 3 as follows:

In accordance with another aspect of the present invention, a snowplow mount assembly includes four principal components, namely a frame mount assembly, a support assembly, a lift mount assembly, and a ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly. The frame mount assembly is affixed to the frame of the vehicle and has at least one attachment point situated beneath and behind the bumper of the vehicle. The support assembly is designed to be connected to the at least one attachment point on the frame mount assembly. The support assembly is also designed to be connected to the lift mount assembly ~~unit~~ and/or the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly. The support assembly thereby integrates the lift mount assembly and/or ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly with the frame mount assembly. The support assembly is mounted to the frame mount assembly in a manner to allow the support assembly to be releasably attached to the frame mount assembly for easy removal from the vehicle. In one embodiment, the removal of the support assembly from the frame mount assembly results in no permanent structures of the snowplow mount protruding beyond the vehicle bumper.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 15 as follows:

In accordance with still another aspect of the present invention, the lift mount assembly is designed to be detachable from or permanently affixed to the support assembly. In one embodiment, the lift mount assembly includes a lift arm that is connected or interconnected to the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly for lifting and lowering the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 19 as follows:

In accordance with yet another aspect of the present invention, the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly is designed to be detachable from or permanently affixed to the support assembly. In one embodiment, the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly includes an A-frame design to support a snowplow blade.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 19 as follows:

In another embodiment of the present invention, the support assembly includes a blade mount connector designed to connect the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly to the support assembly. In one embodiment, the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly is connected to the support assembly to allow at least a portion of the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly to be lifted and/or lowered. In one specific embodiment, the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly includes an opening which forms a complimentary opening with an opening in the support assembly for a connector to be inserted therethrough when the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly is properly positioned with respect to the support assembly. In this specific embodiment, the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly preferably can pivot about the connector. In still another embodiment, the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly can be attached and/or detached from the support assembly. In one specific embodiment, the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly is connected to the support assembly at a different location on the support assembly from the location the support system is connected to the frame mount assembly.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 3 as follows:

In accordance with still another aspect of the present invention, the support assembly includes at least one stop plate. The stop plate is designed to engage a portion of the blade mount assembly when the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly is lifted into an upward position by the lift mount

assembly and/or when the support assembly is disengaged from the frame mount assembly and lies upon the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly. In one embodiment, the stop plate is positioned on the support assembly such that the stop plate and a top surface of the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly form a complimentary surface with respect to one another when the portion of the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly engages the stop plate. In another embodiment, the stop plate adds structural integrity to the support assembly to increase the rigidity to the support assembly and to inhibit deformation of the support assembly. In still another embodiment. the stop plate includes an adjustable extension to adjust the extension of a portion of the stop plate. In yet another embodiment, the stop plate and/or blade mount adjustment includes a contact seat. In one specific embodiment, the contact seat includes metal, plastic, and/or rubber.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 21 as follows:

In accordance with still yet another aspect of the present invention, the support assembly includes a second end leg member that is designed to connect the lift mount assembly to the support assembly. In one embodiment, the second end leg member is rigidly connected to a portion of the lift mount assembly. The rigid connection can be formed by a weld, bolt, pin, clamp and the like. In another embodiment, a portion of the lift mount assembly is formed from a common portion of the support assembly. In still another embodiment, the lift mount assembly is angularly connected relative to the second end leg member. In this embodiment, the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly is angularly oriented on the support assembly to reduce stress on the connection between the support assembly and the lift mount assembly. In still yet another embodiment, the lift mount assembly is connected to the support assembly to allow the lift mount assembly to be angularly adjustably connected to the support assembly. In this embodiment, adjustable connection enables the lift mount

assembly to be used with a variety of different vehicles. In one specific embodiment, the adjustable connection can be formed by a tooth and groove arrangement, a pin arrangement, a bolting arrangement, a latch arrangement, or the like.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 7 as follows:

In accordance with still yet another aspect of the present invention, the lift mount assembly includes a plow blade stop designed to receive a portion of the plow blade when the plow blade is in the lifted position and/or when the support assembly is detached from the frame mount assembly and resting on the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly. In one embodiment, the stop provides a resting surface for the plow blade and/or can be designed to assist in mounting the lift mount assembly and support assembly to and/or from the frame mount assembly. In another embodiment, the stop plate is designed to provide structural support and add rigidity to the lift mount assembly.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 24 as follows:

In accordance with still yet another aspect of the present invention, the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly includes a support mechanism to elevate at least a portion of the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly above a ground surface when the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly is detached from the support assembly and/or the support assembly is detached from the frame mount assembly. The support leg enables an operator to conveniently attach and/or reattach the end of the blade mount assembly to the support assembly, and/or helps to prevent damage to the support assembly and/or the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly during the connecting and/or reconnecting of the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly to the support assembly. In one embodiment, the support leg is movable between a support position and a non-support position. In the non-support position, the leg is raised and/or repositioned so as not

to contact the ground surface during use of the snowplow blade. In the support position, the leg is lowered and/or repositioned so as to rest on the surface of the ground. In another embodiment, the support leg elevates one end of the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly so that the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly can be easily connected to and/or disconnected from the support assembly, and/or the support assembly can be easily connected to and/or disconnected from the frame mount assembly. In still another embodiment, the support leg is adjustably positionable to vary the elevation of the end of the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly from the ground surface. The variable height positioning of the support leg can be accomplished in a variety of manners. In one specific embodiment, the support leg includes a plurality of openings whereby a bolt, pin or the like is positioned through the opening and secured in a portion of the blade mount assembly. The plurality of openings allow the support leg to support the end of the blade mount assembly in a variety of elevations above the ground. In another specific embodiment, the plurality of openings enables the support leg to be secured in a retracted position in multiple locations on the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly. In another specific embodiment, the support leg is extended and/or retracted from the ground surface by a crank arrangement. In this embodiment, a crank is rotated to lower or raise the leg. Many arrangements which include the crank can be used to raise and lower the support leg. These arrangements can include rope, cord, chains, screw, teeth and/or grooves. In one preferred arrangement, the leg includes a plurality of grooves that engage rotating teeth which are rotated by the crank. In another preferred arrangement, the leg is raised and lowered by a screw-jack arrangement. In another embodiment, the support leg includes a mount flange that enables the support leg to be attached and detached from the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly. In still another embodiment, the support leg can be stored on the lift mount assembly or support assembly when not in use. In a further embodiment, the top portion of the support leg is designed as a landing to support a stop plate that is mounted onto

the support assembly or lift mount assembly. In one specific embodiment, the stop plate engages the top portion of the support leg when the support assembly is disconnected from the frame mount assembly.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 13 as follows:

In accordance with still another aspect of the present invention, the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly includes a skid plate. In one embodiment, the skid plate is secured to or near the front of the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly. In another embodiment, the skid plate elevates at least one end of the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly above the ground to facilitate in the attachment and/or detachment of the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly from the support assembly, the attachment and/or detachment of the support assembly from the frame mount assembly, and/or limit or prevent damage to the frame mount assembly during operation of the snowplow. In yet another embodiment, the skid plate is adjustably secured to the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly so that the height of at least one end of the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly can be adjusted from the ground. In one specific embodiment, washers are used to adjust the length of the skip plate. In another specific embodiment, the skid plate has a generally circular base portion.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 22 as follows:

In accordance with still yet another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a snowplow mount ~~arrangement~~ assembly wherein the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly and/or the lift mount assembly can be easily connected and/or disconnected from the vehicle. In such an arrangement, a support assembly connects to both the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly and the lift mount assembly such that the whole unit can be easily removed and/or a portion of the unit can be easily

removed from the vehicle as desired. In one preferred arrangement, the simple removal of one or two bolts or pins from the support assembly disengages the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly from the support assembly. In another embodiment, the simple removal of a few bolts or pins from the support assembly results in the detachment of both the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly, the lift mount assembly, and the support assembly from the frame mount assembly. The components of the support assembly, lift mount assembly and ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly can be oriented so that when the components are completely removed from the frame mount assembly, they can be easily stored for later use and reattachment.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 1 as follows:

A further object of the present invention is the provision of an assembly which enables the attachment and/or detachment of the lift mount assembly, support assembly and/or ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly in a safe, sufficient, and/or convenient manner.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 17 as follows:

Still yet another object of the present invention is the provision of an assembly which includes a support assembly that connects to the lift mount assembly and/or the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly to increase the simplicity of removal and/or attachment of such components to the vehicle.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 1 as follows:

Still yet another object of the present invention is the provision of a support leg on the lift mount assembly which elevates an end of the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly to simplify the ease of connecting and/or disconnecting components to the vehicle and/or to prevent damage of one or more

components of the assembly.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 7 as follows:

Another object of the present invention is the provision of a ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly that includes an adjustable skid plate.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 9 as follows:

Yet another object of the present invention is the provision of a support leg that can easily adjust the height of at least one end of a ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly and which support leg can be easily and conveniently stored during non-use.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 24 as follows:

FIGURE 1 is a left elevational view of the ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly in accordance with the present invention;

FIGURE 2 is a view of the ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly as shown in FIGURE 1 wherein the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly is detached from the support assembly;

FIGURE 3 is a view of the ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly as illustrated in FIGURE 1 wherein the support unit is detached from the ~~housing~~ frame mount assembly;

FIGURE 4 is an enlarged view of FIGURE 1 illustrating the ~~reattachment~~ reattaching of the support assembly to the frame mount assembly;

FIGURE 5 is a further enlarged cross-sectional view taken along lines 5-5 in FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 6 is an enlarged side perspective view of the plow ~~blade-unit~~ mount assembly illustrating the stand on the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly in a support position;

FIGURE 7 is a fragmentary elevational view of the plow ~~blade-unit~~ mount assembly illustrating the stand on the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly in a retracted position;

FIGURE 8 is a detached front perspective view of the frame mount assembly;

FIGURE 9 is a further detached exploded front perspective view of the support assembly and lift mount assembly;

FIGURE 10 is a still further detached front perspective view of the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly without the ~~plow~~ snowplow blade;

FIGURE 11 is a view similar to FIGURE 1 of an alternate embodiment of the ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly in accordance with the present invention;

FIGURE 12 is a view of the ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly as shown in FIGURE 11 wherein the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly is detached from the support assembly;

FIGURE 13 is a view of the ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly as illustrated in FIGURE 11 wherein the support ~~unit~~ mount assembly is detached from the ~~housing~~ frame mount assembly;

FIGURE 14 is a fragmentary elevational enlarged view of the frame mount assembly as illustrated in FIGURE 11 wherein the frame mount assembly is secured to the support assembly;

FIGURE 15 is a cross-sectional view taken along lines 15-15 in FIGURE 12;

FIGURE 16 is a detached front perspective view of the frame mount assembly in FIGURE 11;

FIGURE 17 is a further enlarged cross-sectional view taken along lines 17-17 in FIGURE 12;

FIGURE 18 is a cross-sectional view taken along lines 18-18 in FIGURE 17;

FIGURE 19 is a detached front perspective view of the support assembly and lift mount assembly in FIGURE 11; and,

FIGURE 20 is an exploded front perspective view of the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly in FIGURE 11 without the ~~plow~~ snowplow blade.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 6 as follows:

Referring now to the drawings wherein the showings are for the purpose of illustrating preferred embodiments of the invention only and not for the purpose of limiting the same, FIGURES 1-10 illustrate an improved frame snowplow mount assembly for operating a snowplow with the use of a vehicle. The frame snowplow mount assembly is suitable for use with large trucks, pick-up trucks, 4 x 4 vehicles, and the like for snow removal operations such as encountered in plowing driveways, parking lots, roads, etc. These snowplow blades are typically about 50-85 inches in length. For snowplow blades used in heavy duty snowplow removal such as by municipalities and government agencies for removing snow and debris from highways, the snowplow blade typically has a length of about 80-120 inches.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 15 as follows:

The frame snowplow mount assembly 20 is made up of four principal components, namely the ~~housing~~ frame mount assembly 200, which is secured to the frame members 32 of a vehicle 30 and positioned under and rearwardly of the vehicle bumper 34, a support assembly 250 secured to the ~~housing~~ frame mount assembly, ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly 40 secured to the support assembly and a lift mount assembly 310 which is also secured to the support assembly.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 20 as follows:

Referring now to FIGURES 1-4, ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly 40 includes a plow blade 41

having a generally longitudinally extending structural frame 42, a scraper blade 44 which is attached to the bottom of structural frame 42 and an inwardly curved mold board 46. For consistency of terminology as used herein, the scraper blade is the replaceable, lower edged portion of the plow blade, and the blades are the inwardly curved front face 48 of mold board 46 and the scraper blade 44. Plow blade 41 includes a structural frame 42, mold board 46 and scraper blade 44.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 26 as follows:

Secured or attached to snowplow blade 41 is the A-frame 50 of ~~blade support~~ the plow mount assembly. A-frame structure 50 is best shown in FIGURE 10. The A-frame structure 50 includes a support cross-over arm 51 having journals 52 connected to the two ends of the cross-over arm. The two journals 52 include journal holes 54 for securing A-frame 50 to the support assembly 250. The A-frame 50 also includes two struts 56 which are connected at one end to the cross-over arm 51 and at the other end to a mount plate 58. Mount plate 58 includes a lift bracket 60 having bracket holes 62. The bracket holes 62 are designed to receive a rope or chain so that the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly can be lifted and/or lowered by the lift mount assembly 310. Mount plate 58 includes an upper portion 64 and a lower portion 68, each of which include aligned openings 66, 70 respectively.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 21, line 19 as follows:

Referring now to FIGURES 6, 7 and 10, the A-frame 50 of the plow mount assembly includes a stand 90 which is mounted between two parallel positioned stand flanges 80. Stand flanges 80 are secured at one end to support cross-over arm 51. The other ends of the two stand flanges are connected to flange braces 82 which are in turn connected to struts 56. A flange plate 84 secures the

top end edges of the stand flanges together. Each stand flange includes three flange openings 86 which are aligned to one another and are designed to mount stand 90 in a support position and a retracted position. Stand 90 includes a stand shoe 94 and a plurality of stand openings 92 to adjustably secure stand 90 to stand flange 80. A stand pin 96 is used to secure stand 90 to stand flange 80 and a pin clip 98 is designed to be positioned in a pin opening 99 for securing stand pin 96 in a secured or locked position. Referring specifically to FIGURE 6, stand 90 is in a support position whereby stand shoe 94 engages the ground surface G and elevates the back end of the A-frame from the ground surface. Stand 90 is positioned in the support position when the plow ~~blade~~ mount assembly 40 is to be attached and/or detached from support assembly 250, and/or when support assembly 250 is to be attached and/or detached from the frame ~~housing~~ mount assembly of the frame ~~snowplow~~ mount assembly 20. FIGURE 7 illustrates the stand in the retracted position and is maintained in such position when the snowplow is in use. As can be appreciated, holes 86 are positioned in such a manner that stand pin 96 can be used to mount the stand in the support position and in the retracted position. As best illustrated in FIGURES 2-4, stand 90, when used in conjunction with skid plate 134 supports both ends of the A-frame and the plow blade in an elevated position so that the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly and/or support assembly can be easily attached to and/or detached from the frame ~~housing~~ mount assembly of the frame ~~snowplow~~ mount assembly 20.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 11 as follows:

Referring now to FIGURES 1 and 8, ~~housing~~ frame mount assembly 200 is shown as being secured to the underside of the vehicle. As shown in FIGURE 1, two support struts 202 are attached at one end to the vehicle frame members 32 and the other end of support strut is secured to bracket

plate 218 and is secured by bolts secured within plate opening 219. The housing frame mount assembly also includes a frame plate 204 which is secured by plate bolts 206 to frame members 32. The frame plate and support struts rigidly secure mounting bracket 210 to frame members 32 and rearwardly of bumper 34.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 17 as follows:

Referring specifically to FIGURE 8, the two mounting brackets 210 are secured together by bracket brace 216, arm bracket 226, and bracket plate 218. These three structures maintain the rigidity of the mounting brackets while supporting the other members of the frame snowplow mount assembly. Secured to the inside surface of each of the mounting brackets is a landing 220 having a C-shaped structure. Landing 220 is designed to receive a portion of the support assembly as will be described below. Landing 220 includes a lower lip 222 which angles downwardly from landing 220. Landing 220 also includes an arm bracket which extends from the upper edge of the landing and angles upwardly from landing 220. Extension arm 224 is supported in position by arm bracket 226. Both arm bracket 226 and bracket plate 218 have an L-shaped configuration to provide additional rigidity to the housing frame mount assembly. Preferably, bracket brace 216, landing 220, lip 222, extension arm 224, arm bracket 226, and bracket plate 218 are welded to the inner surface of the two mounting brackets 210. Mounting bracket 210 also includes support openings 230 and 232. Support opening 230 is designed to align with an opening in a portion of the support assembly to thereby secure the support assembly to landing 220. Support opening 232 is designed to align with another opening in the support assembly to rigidly secure the support assembly to the housing frame mount assembly. Support opening 232 includes opening supports 234 on both sides of the opening to reinforce the opening and reduce the amount of wear within the opening.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 23, line 6 as follows:

Referring to FIGURES 1-4 and 9, support assembly 250 includes a pair of inner legs 260 and a pair of outer legs 262. The inner legs and outer legs are laterally spaced apart. A leg brace 264 secures each pair of inner and outer legs together. A leg flange 272 is secured to the inner side of each of the inner legs by a leg flange 272 which in turn is connected to a leg bar 274. Leg flange 272 is welded to the inner side of the leg, and leg bar 274 is preferably welded to the inner side of leg flange 272. Inner legs and outer legs include a plurality of openings for securing the support assembly to the housing frame mount assembly and to connect other components of the frame snowplow mount assembly to the support assembly. At one end of the inner leg and outer leg is a landing opening 266. Spaced from landing opening 266 is journal opening 268. Spaced from journal opening 268 is an upper support opening 270. Connected to the exterior side of outer leg 262 is a pin housing 280, 282 and 284. Pin housing 280 includes housing openings 286 which are aligned with landing opening 266. Pin housing 282 includes housing openings 286 which are aligned with journal opening 268. Pin housing 284 includes housing openings 286 which are aligned with upper support openings 270. Pin housings 280, 282, and 284 are designed to maintain a pin 290 within the housing. Pin 290 includes a pin stop 292 radially extending from the surface of the pin. Pin 290 also includes a pin opening 296 to receive a pin clip 294. Pin stop 292 limits the movement of pin 290 within the pin housing so as to prevent the pin from being completely removed from the housing. Pin clip 294 is designed to secure pin 290 in the extended position whereby the end of the pin extends into landing opening, journal opening and/or upper support opening. The positioning of pin 290 within the pin housing is best illustrated in FIGURE 5.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 24, line 18 as follows:

The operation of the ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly 20 will now be described. As illustrated in FIGURE 1, support assembly 250 is secured to ~~housing~~ frame mount assembly 200. Connected to the support assembly are plow ~~blade~~ mount assembly 40 and lift mount assembly 310. As previously discussed, ~~housing~~ frame mount assembly 200 is permanently affixed to frame members 32 of vehicle 30. ~~Housing~~ frame mount assembly 200 is positioned on frame members 32 such that all of the components of ~~housing~~ frame mount assembly 200 are positioned below and rearwardly of the front end of bumper 34. Consequently, when support assembly 250 is removed from ~~housing~~ frame mount assembly 200, the components of ~~housing~~ frame mount assembly 200 cannot be seen by an individual unless the individual looks under the vehicle. Therefore, during non snowplowing months, the original aesthetic qualities of the vehicle are retained when support assembly 250 is removed from ~~housing~~ frame mount assembly 200.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 24, line 28 as follows:

Referring again to FIGURE 1, ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly 20 is designed so that the components of the ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly can be easily attached and/or detached from the vehicle in a multitude of ways. As shown in FIGURE 1, support assembly 250 is secured in ~~housing~~ frame mount assembly 200. Support assembly 250 is simply secured to ~~housing~~ frame mount assembly 200 by positioning the end of inner leg 260 onto landing 220 until landing opening 266 in inner leg 260 and outer leg 262 are aligned with support opening 230. Once these openings are aligned, pin 290 is moved in pin housing 280 and is inserted through all the openings. Pin clip 294 is then inserted through pin opening 296 to secure the pin in position. This procedure is repeated on the other set of inner leg 260 and outer leg 262 of support assembly 250. Support

assembly 250 is then rigidly secured to the housing frame mount assembly by aligning upper support opening on inner leg 260 and outer leg 262 with support opening 232 on mounting bracket 210. Once the openings are aligned, pin 290 in pin housing 280 is moved through all the openings and pin clip 294 is used to secure pin 290 in position. Once this procedure is repeated on the other set of inner leg 260 and outer leg 262, the support assembly 250 is rigidly secured to housing frame mount assembly 200. As can be appreciated, support assembly 250 can be easily removed from housing frame mount assembly 200 by repositioning the four pins 290 in their respective pin housings of support assembly 250 thereby releasing the support assembly from housing frame mount assembly 200.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 25, line 16 as follows:

As illustrated in FIGURE 1, lift mount assembly 310 is permanently secured to support assembly 250 due to the end of inner leg 260 of support assembly 250 being uniformly formed with the ends of lift legs 312 of lift mount assembly 310. Consequently, when support assembly 250 is rigidly secured to housing frame mount assembly 200, the securing of the support assembly also results in the securing of the lift mount assembly to the vehicle.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 25, line 16 as follows:

Blade Plow mount assembly 40 is shown to be secured to support assembly 250 at a single location on each set of inner leg 260 and outer leg 262 of the support assembly. Blade Plow mount assembly 40 is simple secured to support assembly 250 by aligning the journal holes 54 in journals 52 with journal openings 268 in inner leg 260 and outer leg 262. Once these openings are aligned with one another, pin 290 in pin housing 282 is moved so as to pass through all the openings. Once

the pin has been properly positioned, pin clip 294 is secured into pin opening 296 to secure plow ~~blade~~ mount assembly 40 to support assembly 250. As can be appreciated, this mounting arrangement of plow ~~blade~~ mount assembly 40 to support assembly 250 allows the plow ~~blade~~ mount assembly 40 to pivot upwardly and downwardly about journal openings 268 to thereby allow the plow blade 41 to be lifted and lowered by lift mount assembly 310. When the plow ~~blade~~ mount assembly 40 is to be detached from support assembly 250, the two pins 290 are repositioned in pin housing 282 thereby releasing journal 52 from inner leg 260 and outer leg 262 of support assembly 250. After support assembly 250 is secured to ~~housing~~ frame mount assembly 200 and plow ~~blade~~ mount assembly 40 is secured to the support assembly, lift mount assembly 310 raises plow ~~blade~~ mount assembly 40 in the desired position so that plow blade 41 can effectively remove snow and other debris from a ground surface G.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 26, line 8 as follows:

Referring now to FIGURES 2-4, the design of the ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly 20 allows for one or more of the components of the ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly to be removed and/or secured to the vehicle. As shown in FIGURE 2, ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly 40 is detached from the vehicle while support assembly 250 and lift mount assembly 310 remain secured to the vehicle. This arrangement may be desirable when the ~~plow~~ plow blade assembly needs to be repaired, or if the vehicle is to be used for purposes other than snowplowing. When the plow ~~blade~~ mount assembly 40 is the only component which is to be removed from the vehicle, stand 90 is positioned in the support position so that stand shoe 94 engages ground surface G. The stand is then secured in position by inserting stand pin 96 through stand opening 92 and pin clip 98 is then secured into pin openings 99 to secure the stand pin 96 within the stand opening 92. As can be appreciated, when

stand 90 is positioned in the support position, plow blade mount assembly 40 is secured in a rested position since the two skid plates 134 support the front of the plow blade mount assembly and stand 90 supports the rear of the plow blade mount assembly. As can be appreciated, skid plates 134 and stand 90 reduce and/or relieve the stress on pin 290 which secures journal 50 on inner leg 260 and outer leg 262 of support assembly 250. As a result of the reduction or removal of stress, pin 290 can be easily repositioned within pin housing 282 thereby easily attaching and/or detaching journals 52 from support assembly 250. Once pin 290 is repositioned within pin housing 282 and withdrawn from the openings, vehicle 30 can be backed up, thereby separating plow blade mount assembly 40 from support assembly 250. As can be appreciated, when plow blade mount assembly 40 needs to be reattached to support assembly 250, the vehicle is moved toward the two journals 52 on plow blade mount assembly 40 until support journals are aligned with opening 268 and inner leg 260. Once pin 290 is positioned through the openings, stand 90 is repositioned in the retracted position and the plow blade mount assembly can once again be used for removal of snow and debris from the ground surface.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 27, line 3 as follows:

Referring now to FIGURES 3 and 4, the support assembly 250 is shown as being detached from housing frame mount assembly 200. As shown in FIGURE 3, support assembly 250 has been detached from housing frame mount assembly 200 but remains attached to plow blade mount assembly 40. As previously discussed, support assembly 250 can be simply removed from housing frame mount assembly 200 by repositioning the four pins 290 within pin housing 280, 284. Once the pins have been repositioned, the vehicle can be backed up, thereby causing the ends of inner leg 260 and outer leg 262 to be released from mounting bracket 210. When support assembly 250 is

completely released from housing frame mount assembly 210 200, rest bolt 302 on support assembly 250 engages the top of frame snowplow mount assembly 20 thereby supporting the support assembly and lift mount assembly 310 on the top of plow blade mount assembly 40. As discussed above, when plow blade mount assembly 40 is to be detached from the vehicle, stand 90 is repositioned in the support position. As can be appreciated, when stand 90 is positioned in the support position, the stresses on pins 290 and support openings 230 and 232 of housing frame mount assembly 200 are reduced or removed thereby allowing pins 290 to be easily retracted within pin housing 280 and 284 thus simplifying the detachment of support assembly 250 from housing frame mount assembly 200.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 27, line 17 as follows:

Referring now to FIGURE 4, the configuration of landing 220, lip 222 and extension arm 224 facilitate in the attachment and/or detachment of support assembly 250 from housing frame mount assembly 200. As shown in FIGURE 4, when support assembly 250 is to be reconnected to housing frame mount assembly 200, vehicle 30 is moved toward the ends of inner leg 260 and outer leg 262 on support assembly 250. As the vehicle is moved forward, the bottom edge of extension arm 224 engages the top edge of inner leg 260. As the vehicle continues to move forward, extension arm 224 slowly guides the ends of inner leg 260 toward alignment with support openings 230 and 232 and mounting bracket 210. As inner leg 260 moves into contact with landing 220, support assembly 250 pivots about journal hole 54 and journals 52 of plow blade mount assembly 40 so as to simultaneously move support assembly 250 and lift mount assembly 310 in the proper positions. Lip 222 helps to guide the bottom edge of inner leg 260 onto the landing. Once landing opening 266 is aligned with support opening 230, pin 290 within pin housing 280 is moved into position to

thereby secure outer leg 262 and inner leg 260 on mounting bracket 210. The upper support opening 270 on inner leg 260 and outer leg 262 will now be in alignment or in close alignment with support opening 232 so as to allow pin 290 in pin housing 284 to be easily repositioned with little or no further repositioning of support assembly 250 withing housing frame mount assembly 200. Once the four pins are secured in position, support assembly 250, lift mount assembly 310, and plow ~~blade~~ mount assembly 40 are once again secured to the vehicle for snowplow operations. The stand is then repositioned in the retracted position prior to snowplow operation.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 27, line 17 as follows:

FIGURES 11-20 illustrate an alternate frame snowplow mount assembly for operating a snowplow with the use of a vehicle. The frame snowplow mount assembly 400 is made up of four principal components, namely the housing frame mount assembly 500, which is secured to the frame members 452 of a vehicle 450 and positioned under and rearwardly of the vehicle bumper 454, a support assembly 600 secured to the housing frame mount assembly, blade plow mount assembly 700 secured to the support assembly and a lift mount assembly 900 which is also secured to the support assembly.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 28, line 8 as follows:

FIGURES 11-20 illustrate an alternate frame snowplow mount assembly for operating a snowplow with the use of a vehicle. The frame snowplow mount assembly 400 is made up of four principal components, namely the housing frame mount assembly 500, which is secured to the frame members 452 of a vehicle 450 and positioned under and rearwardly of the vehicle bumper 454, a support assembly 600 secured to the housing frame mount assembly, blade plow mount assembly

700 secured to the support assembly and a lift mount assembly 900 which is also secured to the support assembly.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 28, line 14 as follows:

Referring now to FIGURES 11-13 and 20, ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly 700 includes a plow blade 710 which is essentially the same as plowblade 41 shown in FIGURES 1-4. Therefore the details of the plow blade will not be repeated in detail. Plow blade 710 a generally longitudinally extending structural frame 712, a scraper blade 714 which is attached to the bottom of structural frame 712 and an inwardly curved mold board 716. Secured or attached to structural frame 712 is A-frame 750. A-frame structure 750 is best shown in FIGURE 20. The A-frame structure 750 includes a support cross-over arm 752 having journals 754 connected to the two ends of the cross-over arm. The two journals 754 include journal holes 756 for securing the A-frame to the support assembly 600. The A-frame also includes two struts 760 which are connected at one end to the cross-over arm and at the other end to a mount plate 770. Mount plate 770 includes a lift bracket 772 having bracket holes 774. The bracket holes 774 are designed to receive a rope or chain so that the ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly can be lifted and/or lowered by the lift mount assembly 900. Mount plate 770 includes an upper portion 780 and a lower portion 782, each of which include aligned openings 784, 786 respectively.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 31, line 14 as follows:

Referring now to FIGURES 11-16, housing frame mount assembly 500 is shown as being secured to the underside of the vehicle. As shown in FIGURES 11-13, two support struts 510 are attached at one end to the vehicle frame members 452 and the other end of support strut is secured to bracket

plate 520 and is secured by bolts secured within plate opening 522. The housing frame mount assembly also includes a frame plate 530 which is secured by plate bolts 532 to frame members 452. The frame plate and support struts rigidly secure mounting bracket 540 via bolts 544 in openings 542 to the frame members and rearwardly of the bumper.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 31, line 21 as follows:

Referring specifically to FIGURE 16, the two mounting brackets 540 are secured together by bracket brace 550, arm bracket 552, and bracket plate 520. These three structures maintain the rigidity of the mounting brackets while supporting the other members of the frame snowplow mount assembly. Formed under arm bracket 552 and bracket plate 520 is a connection region 560. Connection region 560 is designed to receive a portion of the support assembly. Connection region 560 includes a lower lip 562 which angles downwardly. Connection region 560 also includes an arm 564 which extends from a wall surface 566 angled upwardly from this wall surface. Arm 564 is supported in position by arm bracket 552. Both arm bracket 552 and bracket plate 520 have an L-shaped configuration to provide additional rigidity to the housing frame mount assembly. Preferably, bracket brace 550, arm 564, wall 566, arm bracket 552, and bracket plate 520 are welded to the inner surface of the two mounting brackets 540. Mounting bracket 540 also includes support openings 570 and 572. Support opening 570 is designed to align with an opening in a portion of the support assembly to thereby secure the support assembly to connection region 560. Support opening 572 is designed to align with another opening in the support assembly to rigidly secure the support assembly to the housing frame mount assembly. Support opening 572 includes opening supports 574 on both sides of the opening to reinforce the opening and reduce the amount of wear within the opening.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 32, line 9 as follows:

Referring to FIGURES 11-13 and 19, support assembly 600 includes a pair of inner legs 610 and a pair of outer legs 612. The inner legs and outer legs are laterally spaced apart. A leg brace 614 secures each pair of inner and outer legs together. A leg flange 620 is secured to the inner side of each of the inner legs which in turn is connected to a leg bar 622. Leg flange 620 is welded to the inner side of the leg and leg bar 622 is preferably welded to the inner side of leg flange 620. Inner legs and outer legs include a plurality of openings for securing the support assembly to the housing frame mount assembly and to connect other components of the frame snowplow mount assembly to the support assembly. At one end of the inner leg and outer leg is a landing opening 630. Spaced from landing opening 630 is journal opening 632. Spaced from journal opening 632 is an upper support opening 634. Connected to the exterior side of outer leg 612 is a pin housing 640, 642 and 644. Pin housing 640 includes housing openings 646 which are aligned with opening 630. Pin housing 642 includes housing openings 648 which are aligned with journal openings 632. Pin housing 644 includes housing openings 650 which are aligned with upper support openings 634. Pin housings 640, 642, and 644 are designed to maintain a pin 652 within the housing. Pin 652 includes a pin handle 654 radially extending from the end of the pin. Pin 652 is biased in a lock position by a spring 656. Pin handle 654 limits the movement of pin 652 within the pin housing. The positioning of pin 652 within the pin housing is best illustrated in FIGURE 15. As shown in FIGURE 15, pin 652 in housing 642 is in the retracted position and pins 652 in housings 640 and 644 are in the lock position. Pins are biased in lock position by spring 656. The pins 652 include a pin stop 658 which protrudes from the surface of the pin. Pin stop 658 limits the movement of pin 652 within housings 640, 642 and 644. Pin stop 658 also limits the positioning of spring 656 on the pin.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 33, line 14 as follows:

Referring again to FIGURE 15, the end position of support assembly 600 includes a positioning flange 680. Positioning flange 680 is attached to outer leg 612 and angles upwardly and outwardly therefrom. Positioning flange 680 is designed to facilitate in orienting this positioning of supporting assembly 600 in frame mount ~~housing~~ assembly 500. When connecting these two assemblies together, position flange 680 is specifically designed to adjust the lateral orientation of the support assembly within the frame mount assembly.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 34, line 24 as follows:

As shown in FIGURES 11-13, an actuator 950 is secured to the lift mount assembly. A pair of actuator brackets 952 each have an opening 953 to pivotally secure the base of the actuator to support bar 920. The piston 954 of actuator 950 is secured to lift arm 960 within bracket openings 944 by a pin, bolt or the like secured through bracket openings 944 and mount opening 956. The end 962 of lift arm 960 includes a lift hook 964 to secure to a rope or chain 970. Chain 970 is secured to ~~blade~~ plow mount assembly by connecting the chain to lift bracket 772 on mount plate 770.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 35, line 7 as follows:

The operation of ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly 400 is similar to the operation of ~~frame~~ snowplow mount assembly 20, thus will not be further described.